



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

21 February 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 16, 2006

### Conditions Report

No impacts are expected in any Florida county through Thursday.

### Analysis

SW Florida: Satellite imagery indicates a continual weakening in chlorophyll levels alongshore SW Florida. Although clouds obscure recent imagery in northern SW Florida, patches of elevated chlorophyll remain visible offshore Pasco County at 28°14'N, 82°54'W. No recent sampling results are available for this feature. Coastal impacts associated with this feature are unlikely and minimal movement is expected through Thursday.

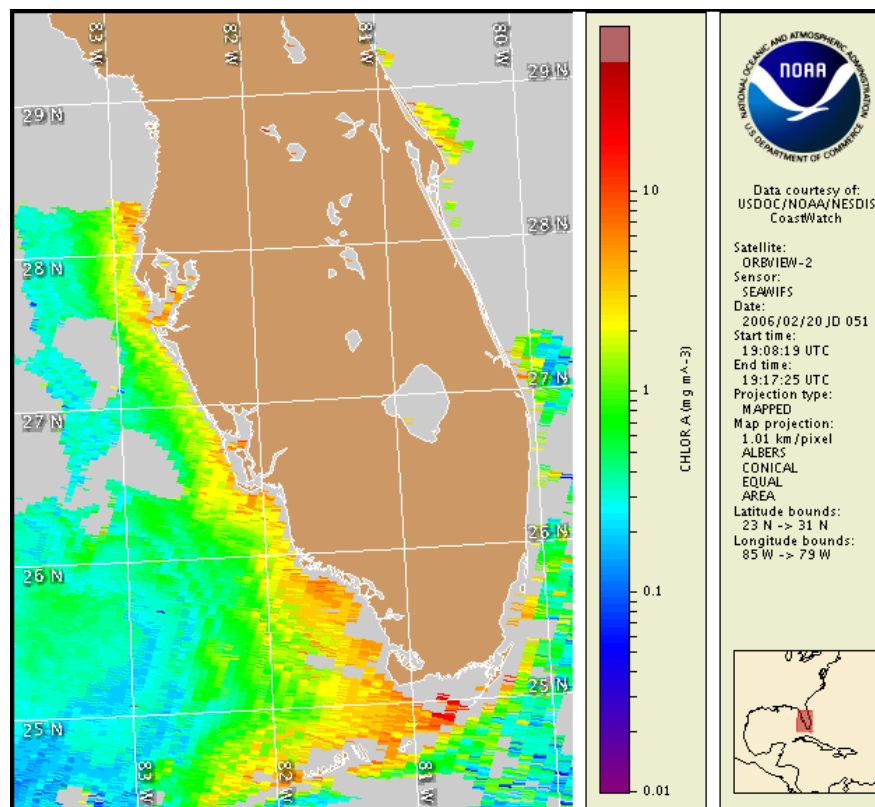
Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified approximately 18nm west of Boca Grande on 2/14 (FWRI). All other samples contained no *K. brevis*, including onshore Pinellas County where very low samples were previously identified at Redington Pier (FWRI, 2/7). Nonharmful algae continues to be found in varying degrees along much of the coast.

Keys: Satellite imagery continues to indicate weakening chlorophyll levels throughout the Keys. Elevated chlorophyll is presently visible northeast of the Horseshoe Keys at 24°48'N, 81°16'W and in patches to the north of the Lower Keys from 24°46'N, 81°42'W to 24°50'N, 81°25'W. No recent samples are available for this region. Sampling is recommended. Expected conditions may promote westward movement of these features.

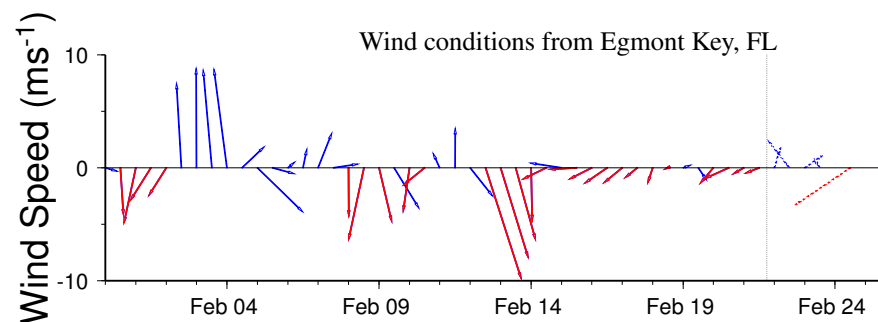
~Fisher, Keller

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



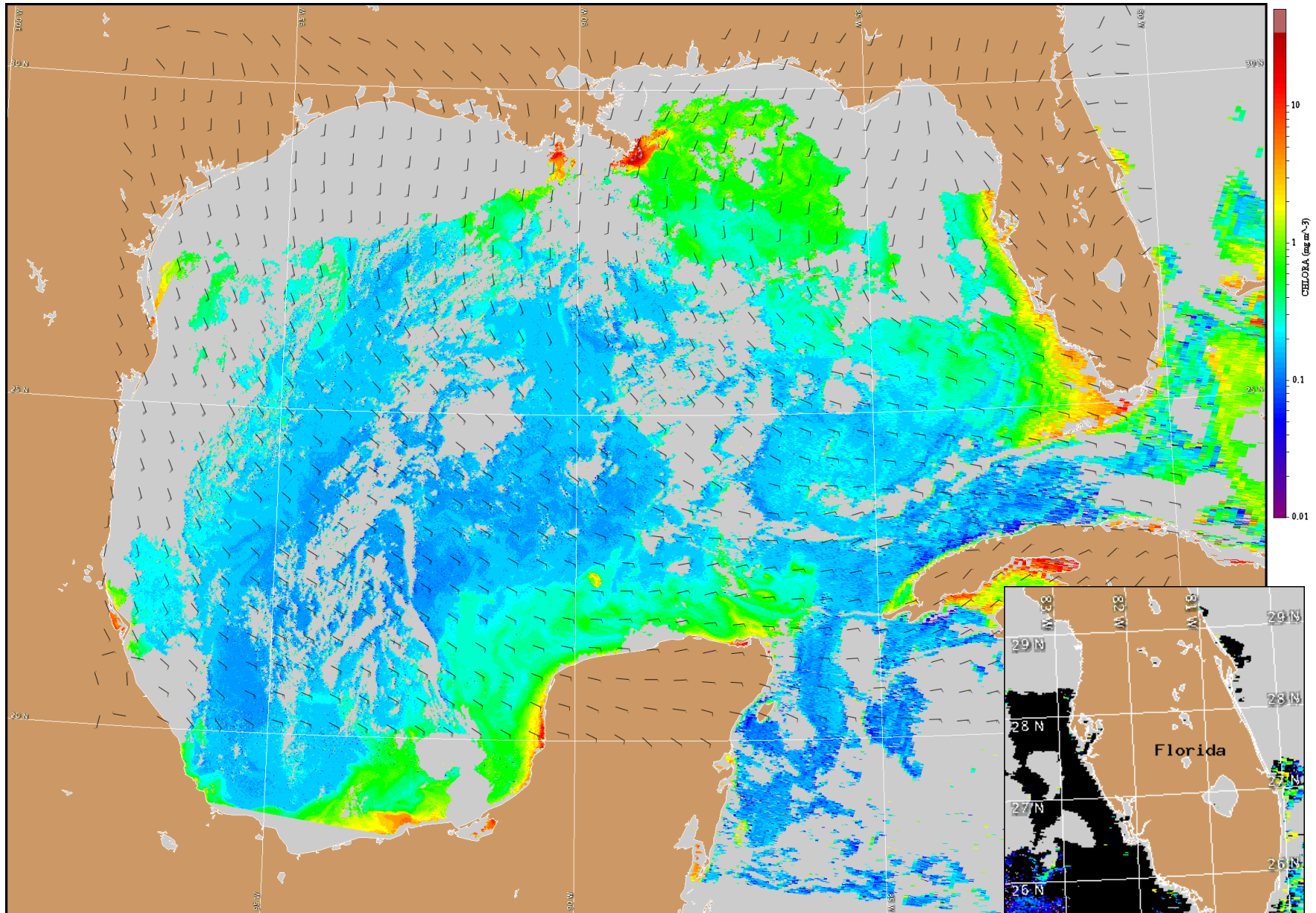
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Southeast winds today (5kts, 3m/s) will shift southerly tomorrow and southwesterly tomorrow night (5-10kts, 3-5m/s). Winds expected to become onshore near the coast in the afternoon both days. West winds expected Thursday.

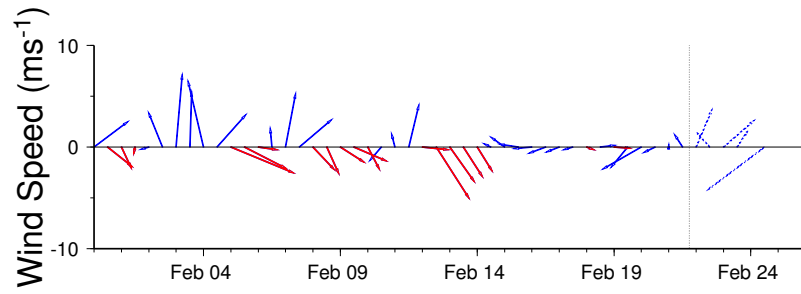
Keys: East to southeasterly winds near 10kts (5m/s) today through Thursday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 22, 2006 12Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Cedar Key, FL



Wind conditions from Vaca Key, FL

